

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the amendment of May 14, 2008. In making the allowance below, the examiner has considered each of the applicant's arguments.
2. The examiner acknowledges the introduction of claims 10-12.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael Huppert on October 29, 2008.

4. The limitations of claim 10 have been amended to correct a minor informality in the claim. The recitation of "said main body block includes an internal flange that projects radially inward from the axially extending inner annular portion of said main ring" is not commensurate in scope with disclosure. The examiner understands that the recitation of "main body block" was intended to be "main ring." During the interview with Mr. Huppert on October 29, 2008 this issue and remedy were discussed and agreed upon.
5. Claim 5 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of newly added claim 10 with limitations corrected as discussed in item 5 of this action. The limitations of:
 - "a sub ring engaged via a thread with a threaded section of said pilot valve assembly block such that, by threading said sub ring onto said pilot valve assembly block, an axial

force is applied by said sub ring to said main ring to prevent rotational movement thereof"

have been amended to recite:

- --- a sub ring engaged via a thread with a threaded section of said pilot valve assembly block, wherein said main body block ring includes an internal flange that projects radially inward from the axially extending inner annular portion of said main ring, and said internal flange is clamped between said sub ring and a radially outwardly projecting portion of said pilot valve assembly block such that, by threading said sub ring onto said pilot valve assembly block, an axial force is applied by said sub ring to said main ring to prevent rotational movement thereof ---

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments, see pages 8-10, filed May 14, 2008, with respect to claim 5 have been fully considered and are persuasive in light of the amendment set forth above.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior does not teach or suggest the invention as claimed for a reciprocating fluid transfer pump comprising a main body block, a center rod, a barrier membrane, in combination with a main ring that comprises an internal flange that projects radially inward from an axially extending inner annular portion and is engaged via threads with an annular wall of the main body block, a pilot valve assembly block fixedly secured to the main body block by engaging with the main ring, a sub ring engaged via threaded section of the pilot valve assembly block wherein an internal flange of the main ring is disposed between a sub

ring and a radially outward projection portion of the pilot valve assembly block, so that when a sub ring is threaded it applies an axial force on the main ring.

8. Steck et al. US 6,402,486 specifically does not teach a main ring with an internal flange that is disposed between a radial outward projection of a pilot valve assembly block and a sub ring. The instant invention teaches a pump assembly that allows for a pilot valve assembly block to be engaged with a main ring by a sub ring that is threaded onto the pilot valve assembly block. The main ring can then be threaded onto the main block and a sub ring can then be rotated to further progress through a threaded connection with the pilot valve assembly block. This action enables a pilot valve assembly block to be tightly engaged with the main ring, aligned with channels of a piping block, and fixedly secure so that it is not free to rotate unless a sub ring is rotated in the opposite direction from a tightening direction.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LEONARD J. WEINSTEIN whose telephone number is (571)272-9961. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 7:00 - 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Devon Kramer can be reached on (571) 272-7118. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Devon C Kramer/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 3746

/Leonard J Weinstein/
Examiner, Art Unit 3746